

## **DOES THE HAZLEWOOD ACT PROVIDE BENEFITS TO THE SPOUSES OF VETERANS?**

**Yes, conditionally.** Effective with tuition and fee payments for the Fall 2009 term, Hazlewood Act eligibility has been expanded to spouses of members of the U.S. Armed Forces who were killed in action, died while in service, are missing in action, whose deaths are documented to be directly caused by illness or injury connected with service in the armed forces, or receive a total and permanent disability rating of 100% as a result of a disability or being individually unemployable. The spouse will need to provide proof that he/she is/was the legal spouse of the Veteran.

## **DO BOTH THE "LEGACY" CHILD OF A VETERAN USING HAZLEWOOD ACT BENEFITS AND THE VETERAN HAVE TO BE TEXAS RESIDENTS AT THE TIME OF THE "LEGACY" CHILD USES THE BENEFIT?**

**Yes.** The legacy child must be classified by their institution as a resident of Texas for the term for which they apply for the Hazlewood Act exemption; the Veteran must also be a Texas resident during the same term of enrollment as legacy child. There is an exception if the Veteran has been recalled to active duty out of the state, or has rejoined the military and is out of the state pursuant to military orders.

## **CAN I TRANSFER MY UNUSED HOURS TO MULTIPLE LEGACY CHILDREN?**

**Yes.** However, you may not exceed 150 hours total, regardless how you distribute the hours among multiple children.

## **CAN I HAVE MY LEGACY CHILDREN USE THE TRANSFERRED BENEFITS SIMULTANEOUSLY, EVEN IF THEY ARE AT DIFFERENT COLLEGES?**

**No.** You may not use legacy child benefits simultaneously; only one child at a time may use the transferred benefits. If it is determined that simultaneous enrollment of legacy children has occurred, all Hazlewood Act Exemption Applications may be rendered void, and the college/universities may charge for the semester hours taken during the time period multiple legacy children have used the benefit.

## **MY DISCHARGE IS LISTED AS "OTHER THAN HONORABLE." CAN I USE THE HAZLEWOOD ACT EXEMPTION?**

**No.** You must have a discharge of “honorable” or “under honorable conditions, general”, or equivalent language.

## **MY MILITARY DOCUMENTS STATE THAT I HAVE AN "HONORABLE SEPARATION" AS OPPOSED TO AN "HONORABLE DISCHARGE." CAN I STILL QUALIFY FOR THE HAZLEWOOD ACT?**

**Yes.** In September 1996, the Texas Attorney General issued an opinion that military personnel honorably separated after being on active duty may qualify for the Hazlewood Act exemption if they meet other program requirements.

## **DOES A VETERAN HAVE TO PROVIDE THEIR DD214 TO QUALIFY?**

**Yes.** The Veteran must provide a DD214 or equivalent documentation (if service is prior to 1950) to prove their eligibility for the Hazlewood Act exemption. Veteran’s eligibility is determined from the citations on the DD214 (or equivalent documentation) that substantiates the following:

1. At the time of he or she entered the service, was a resident of Texas, entered the service in the state of Texas, or declared Texas as his or her home of record in the manner provided by the military or other service;
2. Was discharged under honorable or general conditions after serving on active military duty, excluding initial entry training, for more than 180 days.

## I CAN'T FIND MY DD214. WHERE CAN I GET A COPY?

You can obtain a copy of your DD214 from the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) in St. Louis, Missouri. The fastest way to obtain a copy is to submit our request via the NPRC website at: <https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records>. You can also make your request via mail by sending in a Standard Form 180. Standard Form 180 can be obtained by calling the Texas Veterans Commission at (512) 463-3168/3149.

## WHAT CHARGES ARE COVERED?

The Hazlewood Act exempts **qualified** students from paying tuition, and most fees, while enrolled in classes at public institutions of higher education in Texas, up to 150 semester hours. Exemption does not include property deposits or student services fees.

## HOW DOES THE EXEMPTION WORK? WILL I GET A CHECK IN THE MAIL FOR TUITION?

**No.** The Hazlewood Act is an exemption from the payment of tuition and most fees. There is no money changing hands with this benefit. The institution the student attends exempts the cost of tuition and most fees for the student.

## WHAT CHARGES ARE NOT COVERED?

**NOT** covered: books, supplies and living expenses. Property deposit and student services fees are **NOT** covered.